

Serial No. 10/618,526
Amdt. dated April 1, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 1, 2004

REMARKS

The applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended in the telephone interview of April 1, 2005, where the receipt of the requested terminal disclaimers was discussed and the overlap of claims 1 and 12.

Terminal Disclaimer:

As discussed, the applicants herewith resubmit the terminal disclaimers that were sent with the response dated February 24, 2005. Copies of the documents submitted February 24, 2005, including the terminal disclaimers, are attached hereto as Appendix A.

In addition, a terminal disclaimer directed to U.S. Patent 6,033,908 is submitted herewith. In light of the terminal disclaimers, the rejection should be overcome. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim Overlap:

As discussed, independent claim 12, and claims depending therefrom, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 16 has been amended to depend from claim 1. Hence, the pending claims should be in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

Claims 1-7, 9-11, 16, and 21-24 should now be in condition for allowance. Should any questions remain after entry of the amendments and consideration of the remarks herein, the Office is invited to contact the applicants' representative at the number provided herein.

Respectfully submitted,



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